

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERN 03289 071614Z

45

ACTION INT-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-03 SMI-01 L-03 IO-10 COME-00

OFA-01 TRSE-00 /036 W

----- 117668

R 071538Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1139

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERN 3289

DEPT PASS FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE FOR T. L. STRIEGLER

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV TBIO SZ US

SUBJ: ENFORCEMENT OF WILDLIFE LAWS

REF: A. STATE 181110; B. BERN 0805

1. THE EMBASSY HAS SO FAR BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN THE INFORMATION REQUESTED IN REFTEL A. THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN REFTEL B WAS OBTAINED INFORMALLY THROUGH THE GOOD OFFICES OF THE POLICE OFFICIALS INVOLVED. AT THAT TIME A SWISS POLICE OFFICIAL TOLD AN EMBASSY OFFICER THAT REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE INVOLVEMENT OF SWISS FIRMS IN THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SKINS OF ENDANGERED SPECIES SHOULD BE MADE THROUGH LETTERS ROGATORY.

2. AN EMBASSY OFFICER DISCUSSED THE PROBLEM WITH DR. PETER GAFNER OF THE SWISS FEDERAL VETERINARY SERVICE, WHICH IS THE DESIGNATED SWISS MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA. DR. GAFNER SAID THAT SINCE THE CONVENTION WENT INTO FORCE ON JULY 1, 1975, IMPORT AND EXPORT LICENSES HAVE BEEN REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONVENTION. HE POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT ARTICLE VII OF THE CONVENTION SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDES TRANSIT OR TRANS-SHIPMENTS OF SKINS AND OTHER SPECIMENS

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PAGE 02 BERN 03289 071614Z

OF ENDANGERED SPECIES. (THIS MEANS THAT SUCH TRANS-

SHIPMENTS ARE STILL NOT ILLEGAL IN SWITZERLAND AND, THEREFORE, THE SWISS COURTS WOULD PROBABLY NOT RECOGNIZE A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION THROUGH LETTERS ROGATORY.) NEVERTHELESS, DR. GAFNER SAID HIS OFFICE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO KNOW THE FINAL DESTINATION OF THE SKINS TRANSITING SWITZERLAND. CONSEQUENTLY, THE VETERINARY OFFICIALS AT THE GENEVA AND ZURICH AIRPORTS HAVE BEGUN INFORMALLY TO EXAMINE THE SHIPPING DOCUMENTS OF TRANSIT SHIPMENTS IN AN EFFORT TO DETERMINE THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF THE FINAL RECIPIENTS. DR. GAFNER SUGGESTED THAT THE EMBASSY OFFICER CALL AGAIN IN A FEW WEEKS WHEN HE MAY HAVE MORE INFORMATION.

3. IT DOES NOT APPEAR THAT THE EMBASSY WILL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN ANY MORE INFORMATION ON SHIPMENTS OF SKINS MADE PRIOR TO JULY 1, 1975. THE EMBASSY WILL REPORT FURTHER IF THE VETERINARY SERVICE CAN PROVIDE DETAILS ON TRANS-SHIPMENTS SINCE JULY 1.  
ODELL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SPECIES PROTECTION, LAW, WILD LIFE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 75 STATE 181110, 75 BERN 805  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <07 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ENFORCEMENT OF WILDLIFE LAWS  
**TAGS:** SENV, TBIO, SZ, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006